

In The Claims:

Please amend claims 10, 12, 18 and 20, and cancel claims 11, 19 and 26, without prejudice. The amendments to claims 10, 12, 18 and 20, and the cancellation of claims 11, 19 and 26 are indicated below in the associated claim listing, which is provided on separate sheets. The correct status of the claims is also shown therein.

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. **Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) A corrosion-resistant hot dip plated steel material having a particular surface smoothness, comprising:

at least one section having a surface; and

a plated layer provided on the surface, the plated layer containing Al of about at least 4% to 20% in mass and Mg of about 1% to 10% in mass, and comprising an Al phase and an Al-type intermetallic compound, with the balance of the plated layer in mass consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities, wherein the intermetallic compound has a melting point of at least 600° C and lattice constants in the range of about 3Å to 5Å, and wherein the intermetallic compound comprises about 0.001% to 0.5% by mass of the plated layer.

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the plated layer contains ~~Al of about 4% to 20%, and Si of about 0.001% to 2% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.~~

Claims 13 and 14 (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of an Ni-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Zr-Al-type intermetallic compound, and an Sr-Al-type intermetallic compound.

16. (Previously Presented) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of TiAl_3 , NiAl_3 , Co_2Al_9 , $\text{Co}_4\text{Al}_{13}$, CrAl_4 , CrAl_7 , $\text{Cr}_2\text{Al}_{11}$, $\text{Mn}_4\text{Al}_{11}$, MnAl_6 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{Ce}_3$, CeZn_2Al_2 , Al_9Ir_2 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{La}_3$, Al_{12}Mo , NbAl_3 , Al_2Se_3 , TaAl_3 , ZrAl_3 , Zr_2ZnAl_3 , Al_2Ca , $\text{Ti}_7\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_{12}$, FeNiAl_9 , $\text{Fe}_3\text{NiAl}_{10}$, TiAl_2 , TiAl , Ni_2Al_3 , NiAl , and SrAl_4 .

17. (Previously Presented) The steel material according to claim 16, wherein the Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound is $\text{Ti}(\text{Al}_{1-x}\text{Si}_x)_3$.

18. (Currently Amended) A corrosion-resistant hot dip plated steel material having a particular surface smoothness, comprising:

at least one section including a surface; and

a plated layer provided on the surface, the plated layer including Al of about at least 4% to 20% in mass, Mg of about 1% to 10% in mass, with the balance of the plated layer in mass consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities, and an Al-type intermetallic compound abutting on an Al phase.

Claim 19 (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the plated layer contains ~~Al of about 4% to 20% and Si of about 0.001% to 2% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.~~

21. (Previously Presented) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the intermetallic compound has a melting point of at least 600°C and about 0.001% to 0.5% in mass.

22. (Previously Presented) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein at least one of lattice constants of the intermetallic compound is in a range from about 3Å to 5Å.

23. (Previously Presented) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of an Ni-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Zr-Al-type intermetallic compound, and an Sr-Al-type intermetallic compound.

24. (Previously Presented) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of TiAl₃, NiAl₃, Co₂Al₉, Co₄Al₁₃, CrAl₄, CrAl₇, Cr₂Al₁₁, Mn₄Al₁₁, MnAl₆, Al₁₁Ce₃, CeZn₂Al₂, Al₉Ir₂, Al₁₁La₃, Al₁₂Mo, NbAl₃, Al₂Se₃, TaAl₃, ZrAl₃, Zr₂ZnAl₃, Al₂Ca, Ti₇Al₆Si₁₂, FeNiAl₉, Fe₃NiAl₁₀, TiAl₂, TiAl, Ni₂Al₃, NiAl, and SrAl₄.

25. (Previously Presented) The steel material according to claim 24, wherein the Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound is Ti(Al_{1-x}Si_x)₃.

Claim 26 (Cancelled).